

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/600,864

Examiner

Faye Boosalis

Applicant(s)

MCGLOTHLIN ET AL.

Art Unit

2884

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5 May 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4,6,10 and 11.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Comment on Submissions

1. This communication is responsive to submissions 5 May 2006.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 4, 6 and 10-11 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 4 and 10, the prior art does not disclose or fairly suggest a real-time video radiation exposure monitoring system or method, comprising: a variable-sensitivity meter circuit, connected between the Geiger-Muller tube and the A/D converter, to encode the sensitivity setting of the meter circuit and supply the encoded sensitivity setting to a wireless transmitting means.

The examiner notes that while it is known in the art for a real-time video radiation exposure monitoring system (10) comprising: a wireless transmitting means for transmitting data to the computer (32); and a video camera (linked to the computer (32), wherein the computer is programmed to display video images from the camera simultaneously (see for example Williams et al – US 6,633,327 B1-- Fig. 1 and col. 3, lines 38-53 and col. 4, lines 51-64) and an A/D converter (32) having an input connected to a radiation detector (30) (i.e. Geiger Mueller tube) wherein the display video images from the camera are displayed with data from the radiation detector (30) (see for example Murdock et al – US 6,388,259 B1 -- col. 1, lines 61-67 and col. 2, lines 1-3), the prior art does not suggest a variable-sensitivity meter circuit connected between the Geiger-Mueller tube and a A/D converter to encode the sensitivity setting

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of the meter circuit and supply the encoded sensitivity setting to wireless transmitting means.

Regarding independent claim 6, the prior art does not disclose or fairly suggest a real-time video radiation exposure monitoring system, comprising: a RISC microcontroller connected between the Geiger-Mueller tube and the wireless transmitting means, wherein the A/D converter is contained in the RISC microcontroller.

The examiner notes that while it is known in the art for a real-time video radiation exposure monitoring system (10) comprising: a wireless transmitting means for transmitting data to the computer (32); and a video camera (linked to the computer (32), wherein the computer is programmed to display video images from the camera simultaneously (see for example Williams et al – US 6,633,327 B1-- Fig. 1 and col. 3, lines 38-53 and col. 4, lines 51-64) and an A/D converter (32) having an input connected to a radiation detector (30) (i.e. Geiger Mueller tube) wherein the display video images from the camera are displayed with data from the radiation detector (30) (see for example Murdock et al – US 6,388,259 B1 -- col. 1, lines 61-67 and col. 2, lines 1-3), the prior art does not suggest adapting the Geiger-Mueller meter for digital output by connecting a RISC microcontroller with an internal A/D converter to an output of the analog electrical circuit.

The remaining claim 11 is allowable based on its dependency.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faye Boosalis whose telephone number is 571-272-

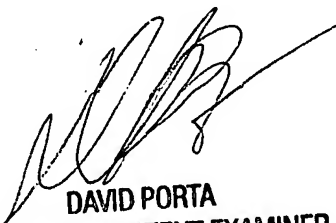
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2447. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Porta can be reached on 571-272-2444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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DAVID PORTA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800